

## ABSTRACT

The present invention relates to an image forming apparatus that enables the occurrence of print defects due to first print start time delay to be eliminated without using a temperature sensor that has a small thermal time constant. In this image forming apparatus, when the temperature of a fixing belt (220) serving as an image heating body is greater than or equal to a predetermined temperature following the elapse of a fixed time after an image forming operation is started, recording paper (108) is transported to the nip area (fixing area) of a fixing apparatus (214) before the temperature detected by a temperature sensor (245) reaches a predetermined image fixing temperature, and an image forming operation is started immediately.